REMEDIATION AND REDEVELOPMENT (RR) NEWS FROM WISCONSIN DNR December 14, 2001

JANUARY 18 SITE ASSESSMENT GRANT DEADLINE

The deadline for the next round of site assessment grants for local governments is January 18, 2002. This year, large and small grant applications are due at the same time, with a total of 1.7 million dollars available. Eligible activities, the grant application, instructions, a factsheet and more information are on our web site at http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/rbrownfields/sag.htm#anchor13409 If you have questions, please contact Percy Mather at 608-266-9263 or by email at mathep@dnr.state.wi.us.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE GIS REGISTRY OF CLOSED REMEDIATION SITES

- 1. Does the GIS registry fee apply to Voluntary Party Liability Exemption (VPLE) sites? No. VPLE sites pay fees under ch. NR 750.
- 2. Does the phrase "property within or partially within the contaminated site boundaries" in NR 726.05(2)(am) refer only to properties with contamination above groundwater enforcement standards (ES)? No. It is not limited to ES exceedances. DNR plans to eventually geo-locate all contaminated sites.
- 3. Can you infer the existence of contamination on some properties from upgradient and downgradient groundwater data, or do you need wells on every property that is affected by contamination? You do not need groundwater data points on each property to show that it is contaminated, as long as the boundaries of the plume are well defined.
- 4. Does notification of contamination on affected rights-of-way [NR 726.05(2)(b)4] also provide for a 30 day response period from the entity that is notified? No. The rights-of-way notification requires only "written notification" regarding the residual contamination.
- 5. What about sites that received a conditional closure letter prior to November 1, 2001? These responsible parties (RPs) have two options, regardless of whether neighboring properties have been affected. They may ensure that groundwater use restrictions are recorded for all affected properties, in which case the \$250 fee for the GIS Registry does not apply. (DNR will still place the sites on the registry). Or they may pay the \$250 registry fee once (not for each property) and request final closure by submitting all the information required for the registry, and completing the notification of affected neighbors.
- 6. What kind of information may affected neighbors submit? Appendix A to ch. NR 726 allows affected neighbors 30 days after receiving a letter from the RP in which "to provide any technical information that you may have that indicates that closure should not be granted for this site". Information that is submitted within this 30 day window must be technical information that the state can evaluate in its case closure review process.
- 7. Can sites be removed from the GIS Registry? Yes. If RPs and affected neighbors submit data demonstrating that enforcement standards are no longer exceeded, that property or entire site can be removed from the registry. The general site information will still be on BRRTS on the Web.

REMEMBER TO UPDATE YOUR COPY OF NR 700 RULES Changes to chapters NR 716 (site investigations), NR 726 (case closure) and NR 749 (fees) became effective November 1, 2001. The rule changes establish the GIS Registry of Closed Remediation Sites as the mechanism for site closure when using natural attenuation to complete a groundwater remedy. If you haven't already obtained new copies of these rules, you can find them on-line at the Revisor of Statutes web page at http://www.legis.state.wi.us/rsb/code/nr/nr700.html. You can also order printed copies from the office of Document Sales by calling 608-266-3358, or 800-362-7253 for payment by VISA or Mastercard.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IN BROWNFIELDS REDEVELOPMENT The International City/County Management Association (ICMA) is seeking applications from local governments and community groups interested in participating in its research study, "Local Government and Community Engagement in Brownfields Redevelopment." ICMA received a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to work with selected communities in the areas of brownfields redevelopment and land use planning to document local government policies and practices in conducting community outreach and education. For more information, visit ICMA's web site at:

http://icma.org/go.cfm?cid=2&gid=8&sid=15&did=1258

HELP WITH GIS COORDINATES

Consultants who are looking for Wisconsin Transverse Mercater '91 (WTM91) coordinates as required by ch. NR 716.15(2)(k) can use an interactive tool in the GIS Registry of Closed Remediation Sites.

- 1. Connect to the GIS registry at
- http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/at/et/geo/gwur/index.htm When the startup page appears, click on the button marked "Interactive Map". A new window should appear, showing a map of the state with Closed Remediation Sites marked in purple.
- 2. Find the general location of the site. Click on the radio button marked "Zoom_In" and click on the map to zoom in on the area in which the site is located. As you zoom in, you should see an increasingly detailed set of landmarks to help you find your way.
- 3. Find the specific location of the site. Continue to zoom in until the scale in the upper-right hand corner of the map reads at least "Scale 1:8000" or an even finer scale, like "1:5000". At these scales, the map will either show a topographic map or an aerial photograph. You should be able to see individual blocks on the topographic map and individual buildings on the aerial photograph.
- 4. To find the WTM91 coordinates of your site, check the radio button marked "Center / Pan / WTM91 coordinates". Then click on the place on the map where the site is located. If you are able to tell where the contamination is, click in the center of the contamination. If not, click in the center of the property. A green triangle should appear where you indicated that the site was, and a pair of coordinates will appear on the lower-right-hand side of the map. These are the WTM91 coordinates. If the green triangle appears in the wrong place, simply click in the correct location. The coordinates will change to reflect where you last clicked.
- 5. Submit the WTM91 coordinates to the DNR staff person reviewing the site.

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